

CLIPPINGS FOR TODAY NOVEMBER 30, 2024

A. THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

NTA recalibrates marketing plan to boost tobacco exports

Sugar price drop alarms sugarcane planters

B. PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

DA reimposes ban on poultry from California

DA: Kadiwa rice eyed vs high prices

Commodity councils to increase the DA's competence

C. REMATE:

PH target mag-develop ng seed production centers sa mga komunidad, unibersidad

Bagong flour milling plant sa Sariaya, makatutulong sa food security ng Pinas – PBBM

P42 kada kilong bigas ibebenta sa major public market ng DA

Presyo ng gulay nag-uumpisa nang bumaba – DA

D. BUSINESS MIRROR:

COCONUT Philippines | Empowering coconut farmers and entrepreneurs through CFIDP

November inflation likely slowed on rice price

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

NTA recalibrates marketing plan to boost tobacco exports

[Jasper Emmanuel Arcalas](#) - The Philippine Star

November 30, 2024 | 12:00am



Agriculture Undersecretary Deogracias Victor Savellano has instructed the NTA to ramp up its marketing efforts to increase the demand for locally produced tobacco both in the local and international markets.

Businessworld / File

MANILA, Philippines — The National Tobacco Administration (NTA) said it would strengthen its marketing drive to hike the export of the country's tobacco and take advantage of the growing demand of the commodity in the global market.

Agriculture Undersecretary Deogracias Victor Savellano has instructed the NTA to ramp up its marketing efforts to increase the demand for locally produced tobacco both in the local and international markets.

Savellano, who serves as the DA's oversight official of the NTA, gave the marching orders during the agency's governing board meeting wherein the status of agency's marketing programs were tackled.

“The initiative is in line with the agenda of DA Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. on expanding market access of crops supporting the economic agenda of President Marcos protecting the purchasing power of every Filipino family to ensure food security,” the NTA said yesterday.

The NTA said the country exported 20.748 million kilos of unmanufactured tobacco products last year. Unmanufactured tobacco products refer to the processed tobacco leaves for use in the manufacturing of cigarettes and other tobacco products, according to the NTA.

The top export destinations of unmanufactured Philippine tobacco were the Dominican Republic, Belgium, Indonesia and the US, the NTA added.

The agency said native tobacco accounted for the most of the exported volume at 9.218 kilos followed by Virginia tobacco at 4.66 million kilos and Burley tobacco at 2.028 million kilos. The country also exported some 4.84 million kilos of other tobacco products such as scrap, stems, expanded sample, cast leaf, cut rag, seeds and dust, the NTA added.

“Considering the great potential of the locally produced tobacco in the world market, I’m urging the NTA marketing research unit to explore more tobacco export outlets and for possible increase in the contract volume of tobacco exports maximizing the existing Department of Agriculture’s international relations,” Savellano said.

“The hike on the volume of tobacco exports will increase the demand for Philippine tobacco bringing more revenues to the government’s coffer and more income to the tobacco farmers,” Savellano added.

The country’s tobacco industry is one of the huge contributors to the country’s economy with tobacco excise tax revenues comprising one percent of gross domestic product and six percent of the state’s overall annual tax revenue collections.

Last year, the Bureau of Internal Revenue collected P132 billion of excise tax on locally manufactured Virginia-type cigarettes. – Artemio Dumlao

<https://www.philstar.com/business/2024/11/30/2403887/nta-recalibrates-marketing-plan-boost-tobacco-exports>

THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Sugar price drop alarms sugarcane planters

[Gilbert Bayoran](#) - The Philippine Star

November 30, 2024 | 12:00am



Manuel Lamata, president of the United Sugar Producers Federation, said some people are playing with the market and immediate intervention is needed to curb the downtrend in sugar prices.

STAR / File

BACOLOD CITY, Philippines — A large drop in the prices of sugar, or by an average of P100 per 50-kilo bag this week, has prompted sugarcane planters to seek help from the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) and Department of Agriculture (DA).

Manuel Lamata, president of the United Sugar Producers Federation, said some people are playing with the market and immediate intervention is needed to curb the downtrend in sugar prices.

“We are urging the DA and the SRA to intervene as soon as possible and to unmask the culprits who are playing us,” Lamata said.

He said the pricing could be the handiwork of unscrupulous traders who want to amass huge profits at the expense of sugar farmers.

Mill prices of sugar averaged at P2,500 per bag on Thursday, when farmers were hoping for P2,800 per bag.

The Sugar Council – composed of the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters, Confederation of Sugarcane Producers, Panay Federation of Sugarcane Farmers and National Congress of Unions in the Sugar Industry of the Philippines – earlier asked the SRA to explain why the price of the commodity is declining.

Since the start of the milling season, Lamata said sugar prices have been erratically dipping and increasing, which raised suspicions that there are people who are profiting from recent events.

“We need the DA and SRA’s intervention to prop up sugar prices at a comfortable level and to prevent further losses, especially now that the quality of sugar is being questioned due to the drought,” he said.

Lamata expressed hope the government would start buying sugar from farmers and directly sell it to the people until prices have stabilized.

He warned that if the downtrend would continue, minor sugarcane planters would be severely affected by the low price.

Lamata said small planters comprise more than 80 percent of the industry producers who are looking forward to a better holiday season, especially with the increase in production inputs due to the El Niño phenomenon.

<https://www.philstar.com/nation/2024/11/30/2403930/sugar-price-drop-alarms-sugarcane-planters>

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

DA reimposes ban on poultry from California

By: [Jordeene B. Lagare @jordeenelagare](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

Philippine Daily Inquirer / 09:51 AM November 29, 2024



The Department of Agriculture (DA) is again banning the entry of poultry imported from California, United States, just three months after lifting the entry restriction. INQUIRER.net stock images

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Agriculture (DA) has again banned the entry of poultry imported from California, United States, just three months after lifting the entry restriction.

The DA imposed the temporary ban via Memorandum Order No. 52, dated Nov. 26, which covers domestic and wild birds and their products, including poultry meat, day-old chicks, eggs, and semen.

With the import ban in place, the DA immediately suspended the processing and evaluation of applications and the issuance of sanitary and phytosanitary import clearances.

Shipments from California that are either in transit, loaded, or accepted into port before US authorities received information on the latest DA order are excluded, provided the products were slaughtered or produced no later than Oct. 11, 2024.

Veterinary quarantine officers or inspectors will stop and seize all shipments of these commodities at all major ports.

The DA promulgated the memo as US authorities reported an additional outbreak of avian influenza in California affecting domestic birds.

The DA memorandum order noted that the rapid spread of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) subtype H5N1 in the US in a short period since its first laboratory detection “necessitates a wider coverage of trade restrictions to prevent the entry of the HPAI virus and protect the health of the local poultry population.”

The agency issued the directive after [it lifted the temporary ban on importing poultry originating from California](#) and South Dakota last August.

In a separate development, the DA lifted the temporary import ban on poultry and pork products from Minnesota in the United States and Sweden, respectively.

In a report to the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), US authorities said all cases of avian influenza had ended with resolved status and no additional outbreaks were reported after Oct. 16.

Meanwhile, Swedish authorities informed the WOAH that all reported events had been resolved and no additional outbreaks were recorded after Sept. 30. The ban on imported pork from Sweden was imposed in October 2023.

Under the 2016 regionalization agreement between Philippine and American authorities, a statewide ban may be implemented if avian influenza affects at least three counties, given the geographical landmass of the United States.

The United States is one of the country’s sources of imported meat and meat products.

Sweden recently secured an accreditation from the government to export meat, as divulged by an industry source.

Data from the Bureau of Animal Industry showed that the United States exported 154.97 million kilograms (kg) of meat to the Philippines in the January to September period.

It is equivalent to 14.9 percent of the 1.04 billion kg of meat imports that entered the country as of September, nearing last year's full-year figure of 1.2 billion kg.

“The record-high importation is worrisome as signs of port congestion are appearing. As well, the record-high exchange rate is increasing the landed cost of products,” Meat Importers and Traders Association president emeritus Jesus Cham said last weekend.

Cham also said the recent typhoons have affected demand, adding that “importers may not be able to raise prices enough to cover the added costs.” INQ

<https://business.inquirer.net/492985/da-reimposes-ban-on-poultry-from-california>

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

DA: Kadiwa rice eyed vs high prices

By: [Jordeene B. Lagare](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 05:30 AM November 30, 2024



KADIWA STORES Workers unload rice at a Kadiwa Store in Malate, Manila, on Thursday. —NINO JESUS ORBETA

The Department of Agriculture (DA) is targeting to roll out its Rice-for-All program in major public markets in Metro Manila and adjacent areas in a bid to cool down “persistently high” retail prices of the staple food.

In a Zoom interview on Friday, Agriculture Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa said the agency intends to start selling discounted rice to markets “within December.”

“We’ll start in ... [the] National Capital Region, and then gradually implement the Rice-for-All program in provinces,” said de Mesa, who is also the DA’s spokesperson.

The DA said the program was in response to the discrepancy between “unusually high” retail prices and reduced import duties.

Price-cost discrepancy

“We’ve tried to avoid selling rice in major public markets to protect the livelihood of rice vendors,” Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said in a statement.

“But since they haven’t significantly lowered prices for well-milled and regular-milled rice, we are now forced to step in and offer Kadiwa rice. This will allow us to supply consumers directly and compete with retailers,” he said.

Tiu Laurel said the wholesale price of imported rice ranged between P37 per kilogram to P38 per kg based on actual price bulletins, as opposed to the prevailing market price of P40 per kg to P54 per kg for imported rice.

De Mesa said the DA is coordinating with farmers’ cooperatives and associations, the Food Terminal Inc. and market masters to sell cheaper rice under this initiative.

“We held consultations with all our stakeholders, particularly with enforcers, traders and retailers, and such consultations will continue to determine the best course of action to lower retail prices,” he said in Filipino.

Tiu Laurel earlier said the DA was left with no other choice but “to take a more direct approach” due to slow progress.

This, as retail prices of rice remain elevated despite reduced tariffs on the staple food and declining international prices.

Under Executive Order No. 62, which took effect in July, the import duty on rice was slashed to 15 percent from 35 percent until 2028.

The Rice-for-All program unveiled by the DA last August allows the general public to purchase rice for P42 per kg, lower than current market prices. The commodity is sourced from rice importers and local traders.

Within targets

The DA bared the program as the Monetary Board said in a separate statement on Friday that it was hoping lower rice prices would offset the rise in the cost of living.

The MB, which oversees the monetary stability and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), said upward price pressures would continue until after December, but predicted that the cost of living would remain within government targets.

“Increased prices of vegetables, fish, and meat due to unfavorable weather conditions, higher electricity rates and petroleum prices, and the depreciation of the peso are the primary sources of upward price pressures this month,” the BSP said.

But the BSP projects that inflation for November would settle within the range of 2.2 to 3 percent.

“Going forward, the Monetary Board will continue to take a measured approach in ensuring price stability conducive to balanced and sustainable growth of the economy and employment,” the BSP said.

Economic Planning Secretary Arsenio Balisacan said in a separate statement on Friday that headline inflation, or the total rise of prices in an economy, may slightly pick up but would remain within the government’s target in November.

“We don’t think that the new number will breach our target of 2 to 4 percent. It’s probably still within that range,” he said during a briefing.

“We don’t see substantial increases in prices but we are monitoring,” he said. —
WITH A REPORT FROM PNA INQ

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2010875/da-kadiwa-rice-eyed-vs-high-prices>

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER:

Commodity councils to increase the DA's competence

By: [Ernesto M. Ordoñez](#) - [@inquirerdotnet](#)

[Philippine Daily Inquirer](#) / 02:01 AM November 30, 2024

Commodity councils can increase the Department of Agriculture's (DA) competence and should thus be fully supported.

Last Nov. 21, at the 25th anniversary of the Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food Inc. (PCAFI) ably led by Danilo Fausto, 300 agribusiness leaders from 48 agriculture subsectors all over the country met to discuss improved governance. They did acknowledge and appreciate, however, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr.'s new direction for the agency.

At that meeting, Tiu Laurel announced the formation of commodity councils. Later, in a press release, the DA explained that "it is looking at establishing consultative councils to create a more inclusive and effective approach to agriculture policy-making and addressing an assortment of challenges."

These councils will have representatives from the DA, agribusiness (e.g. PCAFI), farmers and fisherfolk (e.g. Federation of Free Farmers) and other key stakeholders "to collaborate on the development of policies and strategies that respond directly to the sector's pressing problems."

The agriculture budget has increased significantly to P197.8 billion this year. But the results fall short of the new expectations.

To meet its targets, the DA must do things right (decrease corruption) and do the right things (increase competence).

Corruption and competence

Tiu Laurel is swiftly addressing these two issues.

For corruption, he promised to decrease the DA's alarming 30-percent nonliquidation rate, which was seen in the 2020, 2021 and 2022 budgets. This was officially reported by the Commission on Audit.

Nonliquidation often means corruption.

For competence, he is harnessing private sector participation to allow for transparency and cooperation. The DA must listen to them to find out their real needs and recommendations.

The DA has very competent people, but if they do not listen to the private sector (as they have done in the past), this competence cannot be harnessed optimally.

This is where the commodity councils come in. These councils, composed of two members from the DA and eight from the private sector, will meet every month. Each council will report to an undersecretary or assistant secretary.

Their reports will then be given directly to the agriculture secretary for his consideration and immediate action. These high-level monthly reports will cement the strong private sector participation in agriculture governance.

Past record

In two out-of-town meetings on Nov. 22 and Dec. 15 in 2022, the Philippine Council of Agriculture and Fisheries sectoral committee chairs approved unanimously that they should meet with their DA counterparts on a monthly basis to ensure that private sector inputs would be addressed. The DA, sadly, had other priorities.

The agriculture secretary will now address this important neglected issue, particularly in the context of agriculture road maps.

These road maps can still be improved with more privatesector input and ownership, especially in the marketing component.

In addition, the proposed appendix to the road map, which identifies priority short-term actions needed to achieve targets, will have to be implemented.

Sans these priority actions, most of the recommended road map implementation teams were never formed. These road maps tragically remained mere pieces of paper.

By improving the road maps and the appendix on priority actions, the commodity councils can now be guided on what to recommend monthly to the DA secretary.

As we continue to address corruption, we must also address competence. Private sector participation, done through the commodity councils, will go a long way in justifying future agriculture budget increases.^[1]_[SEP]INQ

<https://business.inquirer.net/493069/commodity-councils-to-increase-the-das-competence>

REMATE:

PH target mag-develop ng seed production centers sa mga komunidad, unibersidad

November 30, 2024 14:24



MANILA, Philippines- Magde-develop ang Pilipinas ng seed production facilities sa mga komunidad at unibersidad para gawing mahusay ang food production ng bansa.

Sa isang ceremonial turnover ng Korea Partnership for Innovation of Agriculture (KOPIA) Greenhouses and Postharvest Facilities sa Quezon, sinabi ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr., araw ng Biyernes na maisasaayos ng food production facility ang pangangailangan ng sektor ng agrikultura.

“Through these endeavors, no farmer, no family, no community will be left behind as we strive for a future where agriculture drives growth, nourishes our people, and sustains our nation,” ang sinabi ni Pangulong Marcos.

Aniya pa, ang paglikha food production facility ay pangungunahan ng Department of Agriculture (DA) sa tulong ng Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), at iba pang state universities and colleges.

Sinabi ng Pangulo na ang pasilidad ay magbubukas ng bagong chapter sa Philippine agricultural sector bilang “one rooted in partnership, driven by innovation, and aimed at achieving food security for our nation.”

Sinabi pa ng Punong Ehekutibo na ang greenhouses at postharvest facilities ay makatutulong din sa mga maliliit na komunidad na gawing mahusay ang kakayahan na mag- export ng kanilang produkto.

“Through continuous collaboration, soon, they will be part of the regional value chain,” ayon sa Pangulo.

Sa kabilang dako, sinabi ni Pangulong Marcos na may 20 greenhouses ang itinatag sa iba’t ibang pilot villages sa Lucban, Quezon; Siniloan, Laguna; at Zaragoza sa Nueva Ecija.

“These greenhouses are hubs of fresh vegetable and very importantly seedling production— complemented by three postharvest facilities, advanced machinery all designed to reduce the burden of our farmers and increase profitability,” tinuran pa ni Marcos. **RNT/SA**

<https://remate.ph/ph-target-mag-develop-ng-seed-production-centers-sa-mga-komunidad-unibersidad/>

REMATE:

Bagong flour milling plant sa Sariaya, makatutulong sa food security ng Pinas – PBBM

November 29, 2024 16:02



MANILA, Philippines – SINABI ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr. na makatutulong ang bagong flour milling plant sa Quezon province para matiyak ang food security sa bansa.

Ito ang inihayag ng Pangulo matapos pangunahan ang inagurasyon ng flour plant ng Universal Robina Corporation (URC) sa Sariaya, Quezon.

“In a time when every grain counts, this establishment will aid in ensuring that our people have the resources they need to nourish themselves and the future of our nation,” ang bahagi ng talumpati ni Pangulong Marcos.

“With this new plant, the URC has positioned itself as a key player in our nation’s food security, driving economic stability and innovation,” dagdag na wika nito.

Tinuran pa ng Pangulo na ang kapasidad at teknolohiya ng flour plant ay may kakayahang mag-produce ng 3,500 metric tons ng harina kada araw.

“This will meet both the growing demands of the local market and the ever-increasing appetite for high-quality food on our tables,” ang sinabi ni Pangulong Marcos.

“But this is not just about numbers. This facility, with its focus on efficiency and sustainability, speaks to our shared responsibility to build a stronger, more resilient future,” aniya pa rin.

Pinuri naman ng Chief Executive ang URC sa mahalagang kontribusyon nito sa kultura ng mga Filipino at ang nananatiling matatag na commitment nito na mag-produce ng “world-class quality food products.”

Kinilala naman ng Pangulo ang dedikasyon ng naturang kompanya sa nakalipas na 70 taon sa paghahatid at pagtupad ng pangako nito “to delight everyone with good food choices”.

“This only shows the mark that you have made to Filipino culture. Your commitment to producing quality food proves that we can go toe-to-toe with the best in the world,” ang sinabi ni Pangulong Marcos.

“Yet, you have not rested on your laurels. Rather, you have tried to find ways to beat what you have achieved in the past seventy years,” aniya pa rin.

Idagdag pa rito, binigyang diin ni Pangulong Marcos ang naging kontribusyon ng URC sa pagpapahusay ng ‘productivity at pagsuporta sa micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) sa bansa.

“We reaffirm our unwavering support for local manufacturers and producers, especially in the vital food and beverage sector, as we look towards a more prosperous Bagong Pilipinas,” ayon kay Pangulong Marcos.

“This Administration acknowledges the critical role you play in advancing our socio-economic growth—boosting farm productivity, supporting MSMEs, and ensuring the food security of our nation,” aniya pa rin. *Kris Jose*

<https://remate.ph/bagong-flour-milling-plant-sa-sariaya-makatutulong-sa-food-security-ng-pinas-pbbm/>

REMATE:

P42 kada kilong bigas ibebenta sa major public market ng DA

November 29, 2024 11:07



MANILA, Philippines – Plano ng Department of Agriculture (DA) na magbenta ng bigas sa halagang P42 kada kilo sa pamamagitan ng Kadiwa Rice-for-All program nito sa mga pangunahing pampublikong pamilihan upang matugunan ang mataas na presyo ng retail rice.

Sinabi ni Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. na nakikipagtulungan ang DA sa mga importer na sumang-ayon na mag-supply ng bigas para sa inisyatiba. Sa kabila ng mga pinababang taripa sa imported na bigas, nananatiling mataas ang presyo ng tingi, na nag-udyok sa DA na gumawa ng direktang diskarte.

“Sa mas mababang mga taripa at pagbaba ng presyo sa internasyonal, ang bigas ay dapat na mas mura. Gayunpaman, ang mga presyo ng tingi ay nananatiling hindi karaniwang mataas,” paliwanag ni Tiu Laurel.

Ang programa ay ilulunsad sa tulong ng iba pang ahensya ng gobyerno, na naglalayong makipagkumpitensya sa mga retailer at direktang makapagbigay ng abot-kayang bigas sa mga mamimili.

Habang ang pagbawas sa taripa ay nagpatatag ng suplay ng bigas, ang mga hamon tulad ng El Niño at mga bagyo ay nagpababa ng lokal na produksyon.

“Ang abot-kayang bigas para sa mga pamilyang Pilipino ay isang pangunahing priyoridad, at kami ay nakatuon sa pagkamit nito,” sabi ni Tiu Laurel. *RNT*

<https://remate.ph/p42-kada-kilong-bigas-ibebenta-sa-major-public-market-ng-da/>

BUSINESS MIRROR:

COCONUT Philippines | Empowering coconut farmers and entrepreneurs through CFIDP

- BMPlus
- November 29, 2024



The Department of Trade and Industry-Bureau of Marketing and Development Promotions Office (DTI-BMDPO), in collaboration with key government agencies, proudly presents the first-ever **COCONUT Philippines Trade Fair (CTF)**, scheduled from **December 2 to 4, 2024**, at **Megatrade Hall 1, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City**.

This landmark event is a vital component of the **Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP)**, guided by **Republic Act (RA) 11524**, also known as the **Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act**. The CFIDP reaffirms the government's dedication to supporting coconut farmers, especially the marginalized, by creating income opportunities, reducing poverty, and fostering social equity. Serving as a blueprint for sustainable development, the CFIDP emphasizes improving the coconut industry's competitiveness, driving inclusive growth, and expanding market potential for Philippine coconut products.

A Platform for Growth and Innovation

The **COCONUTPhilippines Trade Fair** is designed to be a premier platform for showcasing the vast potential of Philippine coconut-based products while exploring innovative industry directions. The event will gather farmers, MSMEs, institutional buyers, and key stakeholders for sourcing opportunities, order-taking, and collaborative discussions. It will also feature product launches, market testing, benchmarking, business matching, negotiations, and direct selling.

Notable highlights include the launch of the **COCONUTPhilippines brand** and the unveiling of the **COCOMania mascots**.

Strengthening the Coconut Industry

The DTI demonstrates its commitment to the CFIDP through the implementation of research, marketing, and market promotion sub-programs. With the support of the BMDPO, the agency has successfully integrated coconut-based products through special settings in flagship trade shows such as the National Food Fair and National Trade Fair, creating opportunities for coconut farmers to connect with consumers and business partners while enhancing public awareness of these products in the domestic market.

The COCONUTPhilippines Trade Fair, the first stand-alone event of its kind, was developed in partnership with the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and 14 inter-agency stakeholders. The fair celebrates and empowers coconut farmers across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, showcasing the efforts of 90 exhibitors who will present a diverse array of food and non-food coconut products for both local and international markets.

In line with the ongoing promotional campaign, a domestic market research initiative is also underway. This initiative aims to assess demand and consumption trends for coconut-based products, particularly in the food and beverage sectors. It also seeks to provide insights into economic factors driving consumer behavior and identify growth opportunities that directly benefit program beneficiaries.

Creating Awareness Through Collaboration

The CFIDP is a collaborative effort led by 14 government agencies, each playing a critical role in the development of the coconut industry:

- **Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA): Lead agency for program implementation.**
- **Department of Agriculture (DA): Focuses on intercropping, livestock integration, and farm diversification.**

- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI): **Promotes enterprises, product development, and market access.**
- Department of Science and Technology (DOST): **Provides research and technology support for improved coconut varieties and innovations.**
- Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH): **Enhances farm-to-market infrastructure.**
- Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA): **Offers skills training for farmers and industry workers.**
- Commission on Higher Education (CHED): **Supports educational programs related to coconut agriculture.**
- Cooperative Development Authority (CDA): **Strengthens coconut farmer cooperatives.**
- Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP): **Provides credit and financial support.**
- Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP): **Finances industry projects.**
- Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC): **Protects farmers with crop insurance.**
- Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PhilMech): **Promotes post-harvest technologies.**
- Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI): **Supports livestock integration and animal health.**
- Agricultural Training Institute (ATI): **Conducts training on good agricultural practices.**

Event Details

- Dates: **December 2–4, 2024**
- Venue: **Megatrade Hall 1, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City**
- Admission: **Free and open to the public**

Be part of the movement to elevate the Philippine coconut industry at the 1st COCONUTPhilippines Trade Fair and experience the future of coconut innovation.

For more information about DTI initiatives supporting MSMEs, follow DTI-BMDPO on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. For inquiries, email **BMDPO Director Marievic M. Bonoan** at bmdpo@dti.gov.ph.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/11/29/coconutphilippines-empowering-coconut-farmers-and-entrepreneurs-through-cfidp/>

BUSINESS MIRROR:

November inflation likely slowed on rice price

- **Cai U. Ordinario**
- **November 30, 2024**



BOOSTING SUPPLY AND PRODUCTION President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. inaugurated the new Universal Robina Corporation (URC) flour milling plant in Sariaya, Quezon, on Friday, November 29, 2024. The event, attended by key government officials and URC executives, marks a significant step in boosting local production and ensuring a stable supply of flour in the country. Agrarian Reform Secretary Conrado Estrella III, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr., URC Chairman Lance Y. Gokongwei, URC President and CEO Irwin C. Lee, and Flour Division Managing Director Ellison Dean C. Lee joined the President at the ceremony.

FILIPINOS may have experienced slower inflation in November 2024 due to cheaper rice prices, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

In its Month Ahead inflation report, BSP said November inflation may have settled within the range of 2.2 to 3 percent.

This was despite the higher prices recorded for vegetables, fish and meat due to unfavorable weather conditions, higher electricity rates, and petroleum prices.



DTI Secretary Maria Cristina AldeguerRoque: “There will be no price increase on basic necessities until the end of 2024.”

“These are expected to be offset in part by lower prices of rice. Going forward, the Monetary Board will continue to take a measured approach in ensuring price stability conducive to balanced and sustainable growth of the economy and employment,” BSP said.

On Friday, National Economic and Development Authority (Neda) Secretary Arsenio M. Balisacan also said November inflation will remain within the BSP’s target of 2 to 4 percent.

Balisacan added, however, that it was hard to say whether inflation increased or decreased. Nonetheless, the Interagency Committee on Inflation and Market Outlook (IAC-IMO) did not observe any major disruptions.

On Thursday, Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Maria Cristina Aldeguer-Roque said there will be no price increase on basic necessities until the end of 2024, while prices of most Noche Buena items will remain unchanged from last year.

Roque clarified that the minor adjustments, which are already being implemented, reflect the first price changes since last year and were necessary to account for rising costs, especially for imported goods (See: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/11/28/no-price-increase-on-basic-necessities-until-yearend/>).

“Yesterday during the interview in Malacañang, DTI [said it] is monitoring retail prices all over the country and they see some goods are showing decreases but some are also rising,” Balisacan said.

“But our official number is the one that is released by [PSA] and the one that is more representative because they use proper sampling to ensure that they capture what is actually happening in the country,” he added.

Meanwhile, Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) Senior Vice President and Lead Economist Emilio S. Neri Jr. said inflation in November may have averaged 2.5 percent.

This forecast is faster than the 2.3 percent average posted in October 2024, but slower than the 4.1 percent posted in November 2023.

Neri said bad weather may have affected the supply of commodities such as vegetables. He added that the depreciation of the peso may have also been inflationary.

“[Meanwhile] a slower year-on-year increase in rice prices due to base effects and improving supply prospects may have tempered inflation. Stable oil prices in the global markets may have also prevented a sharper monthly increase in consumer prices,” Neri added.

Neri also expects inflation to remain stable in the next six months due to a slower increase in rice prices and the economic slowdown in major economies like China.

Nonetheless, weather disturbances and the further depreciation of the peso remain threats that could drive commodity prices upward.

Image credits: [NONIE REYES](#)

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/11/30/november-inflation-likely-slowed-on-rice-price/>

REMATE:

Presyo ng gulay nag-uumpisa nang bumaba – DA

November 29, 2024 08:27



MANILA, Philippines – Sinabi ng Department of Agriculture (DA) na maaaring maging stabilize ang presyo ng gulay sa Disyembre kung magpapatuloy ang magandang panahon sa mga pangunahing production areas sa Luzon.

“Kung huminto ang aktibidad ng bagyo sa mga rehiyong gumagawa ng gulay, babalik ang produksyon, tataas ang supply at normalisasyon ng mga presyo,” sabi ni DA Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa.

Nagsimula nang bumaba ang presyo ng mga piling gulay. Nasa ₱140 hanggang ₱200 kada kilo ang carrots, bumaba mula ₱140 hanggang ₱240 noong nakaraang linggo. Ang Romaine lettuce ay mula ₱150 hanggang ₱400 kada kilo, bahagyang mas mababa sa ₱190 hanggang ₱400. Bahagyang bumaba rin ang presyo ng green ice lettuce, na may pinakamataas na ₱390/kg kumpara sa ₱400/kg.

Gayunpaman, nananatiling mataas ang presyo ng Baguio beans, pechay, cauliflower, at celery.

Bumubuti rin ang produksyon ng gulay sa mababang lupa, na may bahagyang pagbaba ng mga presyo ng talong, kamatis, at bitter melon. Ang talong ngayon ay nagkakahalaga ng ₱140 hanggang ₱200/kg, mas mababa sa ₱150 hanggang ₱230/kg noong nakaraang linggo, habang ang mga kamatis ay bumaba sa ₱120/kg mula sa ₱150.

Upang matugunan ang mga hamon sa suplay, tinutuklasan ng DA ang pagkuha mula sa Visayas at Mindanao o pag-import ng limitadong dami ng mga gulay. **RNT**

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